

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An adaptor for a personal digital appliance, said adaptor including an FM transmitter and power supply/charging assembly electrically coupleable with the personal digital appliance, the adaptor comprising a modular docking unit having a main body portion with a docking cavity therein, wherein the main body portion contains said FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, with coupling means in the docking cavity for connecting the personal digital appliance with the FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, to accommodate FM transmission by said FM transmitter of audio content when produced by said personal digital appliance in the docking cavity of the modular docking unit, and with means for transmitting electrical power through said modular docking unit and said power/charging circuitry therein, for charging of a battery of the personal digital appliance and/or powering of the personal digital appliance.
2. The adaptor of claim 1, further comprising retention means for retaining the personal digital appliance in position in the cavity.
3. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the coupling means in the docking cavity comprises a firewire coupling.
4. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the coupling means in the docking cavity comprises a USB port.
5. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the modular docking unit comprises at least one indicator light indicative of the operational state of the unit.
6. The adaptor of claim 5, wherein the indicator light indicates the “ON” or “OFF” state of the unit.
7. The adaptor of claim 5, wherein the indicator light indicates the charging status of a battery in a personal digital appliance docked in the cavity of the modular docking unit.

8. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the modular docking unit comprises a housing formed of polymeric material.
9. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the FM transmitter has a transmission range of up to about 6 feet.
10. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the FM transmitter produces an output frequency audio signal in a range of from about 85 to about 95 Megahertz.
11. The adaptor of claim 10, wherein said FM transmitter produces a single output frequency signal in said range.
12. The adaptor of claim 10, wherein said FM transmitter produces a variable output frequency signal in said range.
13. The adaptor of claim 1, which is constructed and arranged to dock with an iPodTM MP3 player.
14. The adaptor of claim 1, which is constructed and arranged to dock with a personal digital assistant.
15. The adaptor of claim 1, which is constructed and arranged to dock with an MP3 player.
16. The adaptor of claim 1, which is constructed and arranged to dock with a wireless telephone.
17. The adaptor of claim 1, which is constructed and arranged to dock with a integrated personal digital assistant having wireless telephony functionality.

18. The adaptor of claim 1, which is constructed and arranged to dock with an integrated personal digital assistant having telephony, MP3, computational and wireless network access functionality.
19. The adaptor of claim 1, comprising a frequency indicator on the main body portion.
20. The adaptor of claim 1, comprising a frequency tuning control on the main body portion.
21. The adaptor of claim 1, wherein the main body portion has a generally rectangular shape.
22. The adaptor of claim 1, further comprising a headphones jack on the main body portion and coupled to said circuitry.
23. A system including an adaptor as in claim 1, and a personal digital appliance docked in the docking cavity of the modular docking unit of said adaptor.
24. The system of claim 23, arranged for transmission of music to a table-type FM receiver.
25. The system of claim 23, arranged for transmission of audio output to a vehicular FM receiver for outputting of sound from vehicular audio speakers.
26. The system of claim 23, wherein the FM transmitter has a transmission range of up to about 6 feet.
27. The system of claim 23, wherein the FM transmitter produces an output frequency audio signal in a range of from about 85 to about 95 Megahertz.

28. The system of claim 23, wherein the FM transmitter produces an output variable frequency audio signal in a range of from about 85 to about 95 Megahertz.

29. A digital appliance accessory kit, comprising an adaptor as in claim 1, and at least one power connector/charger element for use therewith.